(c) whether it is also a fact that the private operators have to give 10 per cent of their revenue to Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) and (b) The Government has permitted Prasar Bharati to increase the number of channels on DD-Direct to fifty in its bouquet. Prasar Bharati is in the process of making necessary arrangements in this regard.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Payment for cricket footage

2709. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several electronic channels have not paid up for cricket footage to Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (c) Prasar Bharati has informed that notices have been issued to private channels to stop unauthorised usage of cricket footage.

It has further informed that under the Terms and Conditions for use of match footage of the India-Pakistan Cricket series, in the case of any channel utilising the match footage in excess of 30 seconds in news bulletins, Doordarshan will raise bills on the concerned private TV channels after the conclusion of the said series.

Popularity of DD/AIR

2710. SHRI N.R. GOVINDRAJAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state: